

1. (Twice Amended) A top sheet including a number of perforations for covering a liquid-receiving surface of an absorbent article, wherein;

the top sheet is formed of a thermoplastic resin containing a particulate material, and

the top sheet is provided with fine convex portions defined by exposing a part of the particulate material on a body facing surface of the top sheet and a plurality of protrusions extending from the body facing surface, and the height of each protrusion from the body facing surface is larger than that of each fine convex portion therefrom, uppermost portions of respective protrusions defining contact points only at locations where said top sheet comes into contact with a wearer's skin.

5. (Twice Amended) The top sheet as set forth in claim 1, wherein the mean height of the protrusions from the surface of the top sheet is in a range between 0.05 mm and 1.0 mm.

11. (Amended) A top sheet including a number of perforations for covering a liquid-receiving surface of an absorbent article, wherein;

the top sheet is formed of a thermoplastic resin containing a particulate material of inorganic particles, and

the top sheet includes fine convex portions of the particulate material partially exposed on a body facing surface of the top sheet and a plurality of protrusions extending from the body facing surface, and the height of each protrusion from the body facing surface is larger than that of each fine convex

portion therefrom, uppermost portions of respective protrusions defining contact points only at locations where said top sheet comes into contact with a wearer's skin.

503  
C1  
B3  
Cont'd

12. (Amended) A top sheet including a number of perforations for covering a liquid-receiving surface of an absorbent article, wherein;

the top sheet is formed of a thermoplastic resin containing a particulate material, and

the top sheet includes micropores formed around the particulate material, fine convex portions of the particulate material on a body facing surface of the top sheet, a plurality of protrusions extending from the body facing surface, and the height of each protrusion from the body facing surface is larger than that of each fine convex portion therefrom, uppermost portions of respective protrusions defining contact points only at locations where said top sheet comes into contact with a wearer's skin.

503  
C1  
B4

13. (New) A top sheet including a number of perforations for covering a liquid-receiving surface of an absorbent article, wherein;

the top sheet is formed of a thermoplastic resin containing a particulate material, and

the top sheet is provided with fine convex portions defined by exposing a part of the particulate material on a body facing surface of the top sheet and a plurality of protrusions extending from the body facing

surface, and the height of each protrusion being in a range of 0.05 mm to 1.0 mm and a mean particle size of said particulate material being in a range of 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  to 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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